

REPORT

OF THE

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

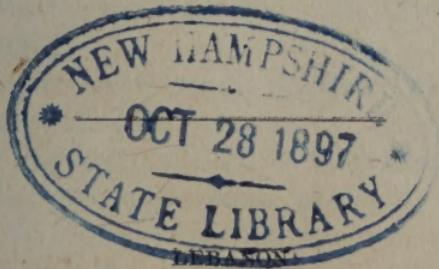
OF THE

TOWN OF ENFIELD,

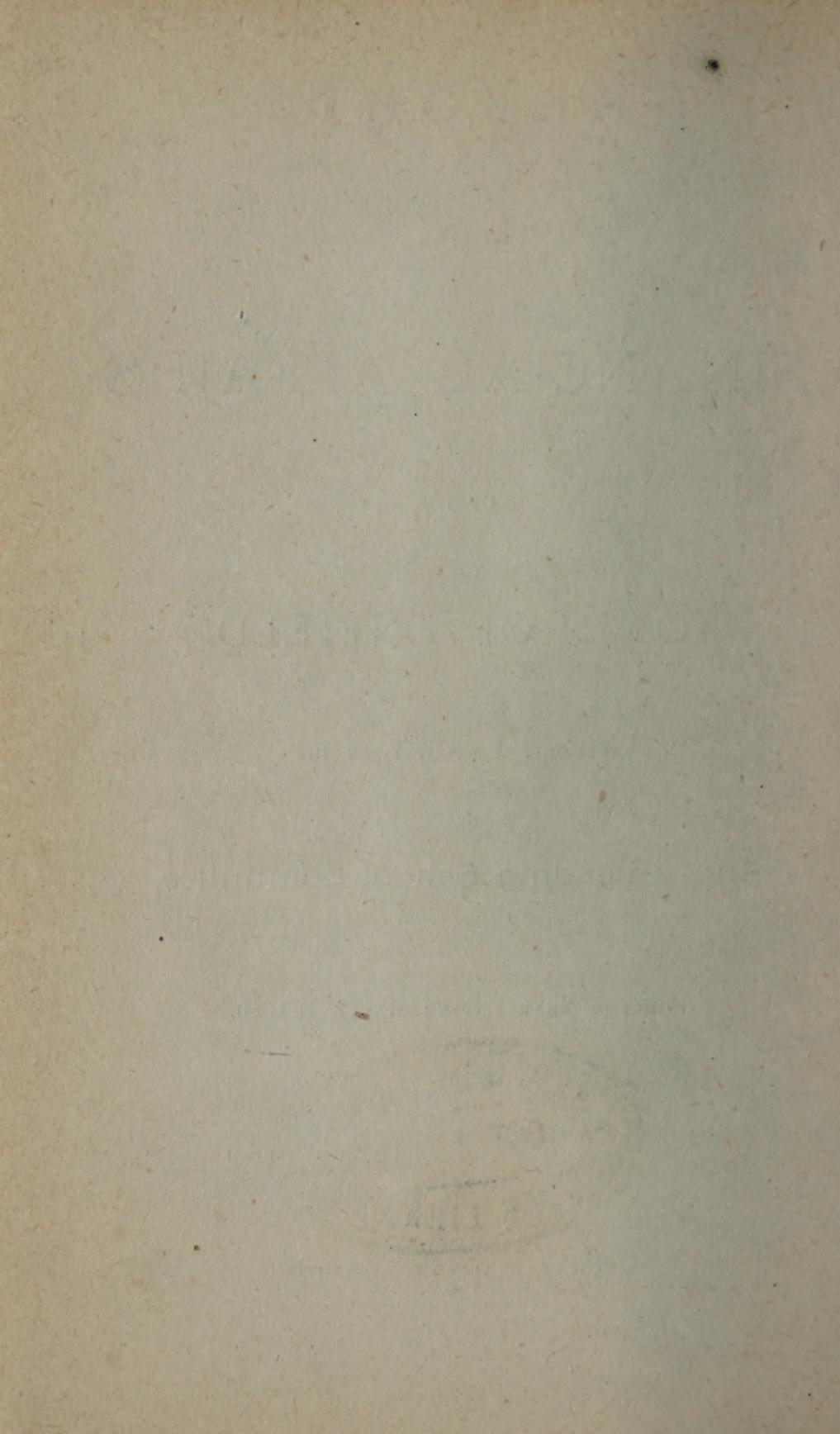
INCLUDING A REPORT FROM THE

Superintending School Committee,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1880.



PRINTED AT THE FREE PRESS JOB OFFICE,
1880.



WARRANT
—FOR—
ANNUAL MEETING.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

[L. s.] To the inhabitants of the town of Enfield qualified to vote in town affairs. You are hereby notified to meet at the Town House in said town on Tuesday the ninth day of March next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

- 1st. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.
- 2d. To choose three Selectmen, Town Clerk, Overseer of the Poor, Town Treasurer and Superintending School Committee.
- 3d. To choose all other necessary town officers and agents for the year ensuing.
- 4th. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges for the year ensuing.
- 5th. To see how much money the town will raise for the support of schools for the year ensuing.
- 6th. To see how the town will divide the school money for the year ensuing.
- 7th. To see how much money the town will raise to repair highways for the year ensuing.
- 8th. To see if the town will direct the Selectmen in regard to the amount of compensation per hour to be allowed for labor on the highways for the year ensuing.
- 9th. To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen, or choose

some persons to rebound the several school districts and make a record of the same in the records of the town.

- 10th. To see if the town will appropriate a sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars for decorating the graves of all soldiers who are buried in town, under the direction of a committee of veteran soldiers chosen for that purpose, or of the Selectmen if no such committee is chosen.
- 11th. To see if the town will vote to raise or appropriate a sufficient sum of money to purchase one new hearse to be located at North Enfield.
- 12th. To see if the town will authorize the Selectmen or choose an agent to purchase the same.
- 13th. To see if the town will choose a suitable person to take the care of the said hearse or pass any vote relating thereto.
- 14th. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or Officers heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.

Given under our hands and seal this twenty-first day of February, A. D. 1880.

J. G. SPENCER, Selectmen
 JOHN H. STEVENS, of
 J. S. PILLSBURY, Enfield.

A true copy of warrant.

Attest: { J. G. SPENCER, Selectmen
 JOHN H. STEVENS, of
 J. S. PILLSBURY, Enfield.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We, the undersigned, Auditors for the Town of Enfield, have examined the accounts of the Treasurer and Overseer of the Poor, for the year ending March 1st 1880, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched for, and submit the following report:

G. W. BURNHAM,
A. M. BRYANT, } Auditors.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

WYMAN PATTEE, Treasurer—

Dr.

Cash on hand as per 1879 report,	\$1,769 84
Rec'd of Wallace Putnam, taxes of 1878,	1,183 00
" " interest on same,	42 00
William Walcott, County order,	429 13
Coupons, Gage fund,	150 00
J. G. Spencer, on notes given during the year,	1,307 22
" " bounty on wild animals,	5 30
Railroad tax, for 1879,	1,941 39
Savings Bank tax,	901 45
Literary fund,	132 46
D. N. Ladd, liquor agent,	23 93
J. G. Spencer, plank sold,	88
Wyman Pattee, interest on balances,	21 02

Rec'd of J. G. Spencer, lumber and wood of J. W.

Johnson,	58 02
E. B. Huse, rent of office,	2 00
J. F. Jones, taxes of 1872, 1873 and 1874,	32 21
" " interest on same,	65 26
" " taxes of 1875,	14 66
" " tax of 1876 and 1877,	100 00
" " interest on same,	25 56
William Walcott, taxes of 1879,	10,234 63
" " interest on same,	30 90
	<hr/>
	\$18,470 86

WYMAN PATTEE, Treasurer--

Cr.

Paid State tax,	\$1,816 00
County tax,	2,826 86
William Walcott, overseer of poor,	1,275 00

DAMAGE ON HIGHWAY.

Paid F. L. Brown,	\$8 00
Horace Philbrick,	5 00
M. V. B. Hastings,	2 00
T. J. Carlton,	32 00
S. R. Truell,	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$59 00

BOUNTIES.

Paid bounty on 7 foxes,	\$3 50
" 6 hawks,	1 20
	<hr/>
	\$4 70

WATER TROUGHS.

Paid Wallace Putman for 1879,		\$2 00
C. L. Clark, 1878 and 1879,		4 00
G. W. Johnson,		2 00
W. J. McConnell,		2 00
Mrs. L. W. Packard,		2 00
G. W. Nownes, 1878 and 1879,		4 00
Joseph Huntoon,		2 00
A. C. Jones,		2 00
Henry Cummings,		2 00
		—
		\$22 00

REPAIRING HIGHWAYS.

Paid			
E. R. Moody,	5 60	W. H. Moody,	8 00
Hial Follansbee,	14 10	John Dresser,	15 05
J. H. Stevens,	3 10	F. P. Haskins,	3 55
C. H. Stevens,	10 00	W. H. Moody,	10 50
Bradley Talbert,	50	J. L. Gove,	58 00
T. J. Carlton,	5 60	E. R. Dustin,	1 00
C. H. Stevens,	4 50	J. L. Gove,	16 00
Orson Day,	40 10	N. E. Huntoon,	2 00
D. M. Marrs,	3 95	J. Pillsbury,	11 90
A. Kidder,	58 23	D. N. Ladd,	9 75
J. B. Sargent,	5 20	J. B. Thomas,	4 50
J. F. Jones,	10 50	J. H. Huntley,	4 50
J. A. Cross,	10 30	D. L. Davis,	1 00
E. B. Huse,	1 75	Hial Follansbee,	6 06
J. G. Spencer,	14 35	John Bradford,	31 21
M. T. Purmort,	16 69	J. T. McCarmell,	1 50
Ira Copland,	1 50	John W. Johnson,	5 00
Cobb & Cheney in 1876,		14 00	
G. W. Burnham, taking bridge from river,		4 00	
O. B. Brown, drawing bridge,		1 50	
John Jones, work on bridge,		6 25	
J. H. Stevens,		12 95	
		—	
		\$434 19	

MATERIALS FOR HIGHWAYS.

Paid

E. O. Williams,	\$6 85	W. H. Moody,	\$5 55
N. A. Huntley,	39	S. R. Truell,	8 00
N. P. Sargent,	10 60	W. H. Moody,	3 00
Gust Walker,	2 90	J. M. Cole,	14 92
A. P. Plumer,	2 00	J. S. Pillsbury,	1 80
Ira Copland,	1 28	Orson Day,	12 43
D. M. Marrs.	1 60	J. S. Pillsbury,	8 00
J. B. Sargent,	11 35		
W. D. Flemming, for bolts,			17 63
Stephen Laffee, " "			1 25
Wells & Flanders, for lumber,			55 75
Smith Marston, " "			31 74
Huse & Berry, " "			2 55
S. R. Godfrey, for gravel,			5 38

			\$204 97

BREAKING ROADS, 1879.

Paid

L. B. Woods,	2 30	N. A. Huntley,	\$2 50
H. W. Truell,	8 15	E. R. Moody,	1 60
D. M. Marrs,	2 20	L. B. Purmort,	1 10
David Noyes,	2 10	D. G. Dustin,	33 90
James Flanders,	3 53	N. Huntley,	5 15

			\$62 53

1880.

N. A. Huntley,	2 25	C. H. Stevens,	\$3 00
L. B. Wood,	60	F. C. Merrill,	5 00
J. B. Thomas,	4 30	B. W. Clough,	9 65
E. R. Moody,	10 30	N. A. Huntley.	10 80
L. B. Purmort,	8 30	J. C. Pattee,	2 00
Eben Clough,	4 10	L. B. Purmort,	10 75
F. P. Haskins,	9 80	E. R. Dustin,	15 35
Hilliard Church,	2 00	John Dresser,	6 10
H. E. Cole,	4 00	Henry White,	3 00

W. S. Fellows,	2 50	G. W. Winship,	1 60
W. F. Whitford,	3 60	C. B. Follansbee,	2 70
J. A. Little,	6 15	D. C. Avery,	10 30
D. M. Stevens,	4 30	John Dresser,	5 95
J. B. Sargent,	12 60	J. H. Stevens,	2 75
M. T. Purmort,	8 85		

			\$172 60

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid C. O. Barney, printing 1879 reports,	\$23 50
Morrill & Silsby, for books,	4 84
F. P Fisher, reporting births and deaths,	4 00
Val. Manahan " " " "	6 00
Dr. Tucker, " " " "	25
Morrill & Silsby, for Statutes,	5 00
D. M. Ladd, printing,	75
S. R. Godfrey, for gravel pit,	35 00
Ira Copland, school house tax, District No. 2,	350 00
Wm. Gage, interest from Jan. 1st 1878 to	
Jan. 1st, 1880,	459 78
Smith Marston, sawing lumber from Town Farm,	26 33
Pattee & Currier, rent of office,	15 00
Pattee & Currier store bill,	5 52
J. C. Currier, work on tramp house,	1 45
H. D. Colby, lighting lamps in bridge,	6 00
D. L. Davis, wood for office,	1 00
J. F. Bryant, postage,	1 00
A. B. Freeman, printing check list,	5 00
J. G. Spencer, postage, etc.,	2 61
C. G. Morgan, school book,	68
G. W. Burnham, express on reports,	1 00
Mrs. J. H. Stevens, over tax, 1878,	75
John Bradford, outstanding order, 1879,	16 85
W. D. Fleming, " " "	1 00
John Graves, lighting lamps in bridges,	12 00

	\$985 31

SCHOOL MONEY.

1878

District No. 15, Hilliard Church,	\$58 72
4, J. C. Pattee,	80 56
17, J. Z. Gordon,	89 82
	—
	\$229 10

1879.

District No. 1, Rufus Webster,	\$556 07
2, Frank Lovejoy,	86 60
3, H. B. Jones,	67 35
4, Jimmie Talbert,	103 48
6, W. S. Cochran,	108 72
7, W. F. Whitford,	96 00
9, A. C. Jones,	152 29
10, Loriett, A. Jackman,	112 94
11, Wm. Walcott,	164 47
12, D. G. Stickney,	96 49
13, John Bradford,	259 94
14, J. E. Gile,	76 34
15, L. B. Purmort,	111 58
16, A. P. Howe,	59 37
17, Lewis Hall,	99 37
18, H. C. Baker,	84 41
E. A. Washburn, Springfield,	4 77
J. C. Currier, for 9 Maps,	44 10
	—
	\$2,284 29

The nine maps were paid for by the districts that had them.

DAMAGE TO SHEEP BY DOGS.

Paid J. F. Perley,	\$60 70
A. P. Howe,	8 68

J. J. Eastman,	1 73
Orson Day,	2 89
	\$74 00

PAID ON NOTES.

Paid Rachael Codman, endorsed	\$30 00
Rebecca Noyes, note and interest,	82 39
Luey Sanderson, "	607 22
Jane R. Bean, "	402 56
Miriam Currier, "	226 32
Miriam Currier, "	1,558 38
Julia A. Heath, "	706 35
H. D. Heath, "	1,308 02
	\$4,921 24

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid M. P. Burnham, Special Selectman,	\$2 00
C. L. Clark, Special Selectman,	3 00
N. P. Sargent, Special S. S. Committee,	2 00
J. G. Spencer, Selectman,	100 00
J. H. Stevens, "	55 00
J. S. Pillsbury, "	45 00
J. C. Currier, S. S. Committee,	75 00
J. F. Bryant, Town Clerk,	24 00
Wyman Pattee, Treasurer,	20 00
J. F. Jones, Collecting Taxes, 1872, '73, and '74,	32 53
G. W. Burnham, Supervisor,	5 00
W. F. Smith, "	5 00
G. W. Burnham, Auditor, 1879 and 1880,	10 00
A. M. Bryant, Auditor,	5 00
	\$383 53

RECAPITULATION.

Amount received by Treasurer,		\$18,470 86
Paid State tax,	\$1,816 00	
County tax,	2,826 86	
Overseer of Poor	1,275 00	
Damage on highways,	59 00	
Water troughs,	22 00	
Bounties,	4 70	
Repairing highways,	434 19	
Materials for highways,	204 97	
Breaking roads, 1879,	62 53	
Breaking roads,	172 60	
Miscellaneous bills,	985 31	
School money, 1879,	229 10	
School money,	2,284 29	
Damage to sheep,	74 00	
Paid on notes,	4,921 24	
Town officers,	383 53	
Cash in Treasurer's hands,	2,715 54	
		\$18,470 86

ABATEMENTS OF TAXES 1872-'73-'74.

Packard Place,	\$32 80	D. W. Hadley,	\$12 30
Henry Spaulding,	21 07	R. Peaslee,	3 07
Oscar Collins,	11 78	H. F. Kimball,	1 82
C. H. Putnam,	2 34	James Flanders,	6 68
W. P. Cross,	5 11	J. K. Cogswell,	80 58
Cobb & Cheney,	15 00	L. Waterman,	2 89
Lorenzo Day,	26 94		
A. C. Lovejoy, Guardian,			7 30
Amount abated this year,			\$229 68

Abatements made previous to J. F. Jones' taking the tax books, and reckoned in to make up the amount that he received for, amounting to

Tax to O. E. Follansbee for	\$1 82	\$32 01
" " D. H. Sargent, " "	6 15	
	—	\$7 97

That was reckoned in and they had A. C. Lovejoy's Receipt for.

Reported due last year,	\$301 87	
Abatements,	269 66	
	—	\$269 66

Paid into the Treasury,
And the Collector settled with.

ABATEMENTS OF TAXES 1875.

James Flanders,	\$1 35	
Jennett Flanders,	1 60	
James Follansbee,	3 81	
	—	\$6 76

Reported due last year,	\$21 42	
Abatements,	6 76	
	—	\$14 66

ABATEMENTS OF TAXES 1876.

Wilder Cross,	\$6 04	James Flanders,	\$1 40
Jennett Flanders,	5 25	James Follansbee,	4 46
D. S. Elkins,	1 75	Caleb Atwood,	9 66
	—		\$28 56

Reported due last year,	\$60 66	
Abatements,	28 56	
	—	

Paid into the Treasury, And the Collector settled with.	\$32 10
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ABATEMENTS OF TAXES 1877.

Mary Angel,	\$3 10	W. P. Cross,	\$3 88
G. H. Stevens,	1 55	James Follansbee,	4 34
Jennett Flanders,	5 15	J. A. Quimby,	1 55
Caleb Atwood,	8 99		

			\$28 56
Reported due last year,		\$128 48	
Abatements,		28 56	-----
			\$99 92
Paid into Treasury,			67 90

Due			\$32 02

ABATEMENTS OF TAXES 1878.

James Godfrey,	11 97	Wm. Kimball,	\$1 98
Wm. Godfrey,	10 20	H. B. Quimby,	1 65
Wm. Withington,	2 57	Orville Barker,	1 65
A. D. Perry,	3 74	Sally Strate,	5 04
W. H. Warren,	1 65	C. Lewis,	1 65
James Follansbee,	2 48	T. Hoyt,	26
John Savage,	1 83	W. B. Stevens,	5 04
J. E. Rollins,	1 65	W. B. Russell,	1 65
A. Hackett,	2 41	F. A. Heath,	3 77
Wm. Anderson,	1 65	J. E. Haskins,	1 65
Hira Follansbee,	4 95	C. Sleeper,	1 65

			\$71 09

OVERTAX 1878.

Cobb & Cheney,	\$8 25	Charles Waterman,	\$8 25
John Dresser,	2 47	Mary Angel,	75
C. C. Hackett,	2 39		

			\$22 11
Reported due last year,		\$1,332 44	
Abatements,	\$71 09		
Overtax,	22 11	\$93 20	

			\$1,239 24
Paid into Treasury,			1,183 00

Due			\$56 24

ABATEMENTS OF TAXES 1879.

Robert Bean,	\$1 60	H. E. Collins,	\$1 60
F. G. Currier,	1 60	C. W. Dustin,	1 60
J. C. French,	1 60	C. F. Guild,	1 60
James Godfrey,	11 20	Sally Strate,	4 80
Fred Williams,	1 60	James Woodbury,	2 60
A. C. Whittier,	1 60	C. E. Haws,	1 60
Caleb Atwood,	6 80	E. A. Choate,	2 60
H. H. Butman,	1 60	James Follansbee,	2 40
John Savage,	1 60	E. F. Stickney,	1 60
Ira C. Dole,	2 81	E. E. Johnson,	1 60
Alden Keniston,	2 60	George Keaton,	1 60
W. B. Stevens,	4 48	William Foster,	1 60
D. C. Page,	1 60	Wm. Loverin,	6 60
Frank Russell,	80	A. E. Brown,	1 60
George Eaton,	1 60	Charles Stone,	2 66
Stephen Hadley,	1 00	Wm. Tilton,	1 00
			\$81 15

OVERTAX 1879.

J. B. Heath,	\$12 85
Cobb & Cheney,	8 00
	\$20 85
Whole amount of Tax Bill,	\$10,517 36
Paid Treasurer,	\$10,234 63
Abatements and Overtax,	102 00
	\$102 00
Due	\$180 73

NOTES, WITH INTEREST ADDED, AGAINST THE TOWN.

Emily C. Clark,	\$270 53	Rachael Codman,	\$466 85
Rose S. Fogg,	12 42	Balinda M. Stevens,	188 29
Emma F. Clough,	312 84	J. M. Nelson, Treas.,	77 15
Henry Morse,	539 00	A. C. Jones,	861 43
B. C. Leach,	3,181 31	J. F. Stockbridge,	338 00
Betsey A. Barnard,	430 14	Julia C. Withington,	109 40
Lucinda Burnham,	88 34	Val. Manahan,	82 40

D. N. Ladd,	144 83	"	"	111 40
G. W. Seaver,	87 84	Hannah Seaver,		88 33
Eleanor Morse,	83 88	C. H. Webster,		424 00
Laura Cogswell,	301 60	W. W. Currier,		296 14
A. V. Huntton,	243 59	Sylvia McKenney,		233 39
Lucy Sanderson,	416 00	Lucy A. Carlton,		707 22
				\$10,096 32

Of the above notes, \$270.53 is at 6 per cent., \$744.71 is at 5 per cent., and the temainder is at 4 per cent.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

WILLIAM WALCOTT, Overseer—

Dr.

Cash on hand as per 1879 report,	\$45 83
Rec'd County order,	429 13
Town Treasurer,	1,275 00
Town of Franklin,	82 34
Auction sale of Samuel Stevens property,	45 34
	\$1,877 64

Cr.

COUNTY POOR.

Paid for Sally C. Merrill,	\$29 61
B. L. Thurston,	40 00
Thomas Seaver,	56 00
Julia A. Hammond,	69 42
Lucinda G. Moody,	65 00
Cortland Hull,	32 12
Julia A. Robinson,	18 50
G. W. Wilkins,	3 00
Expenses on the Julia A. Hammond case,	12 00
	\$325 65

TOWN POOR.

Paid for Asa Strate,	\$78 00
Ann E. Seaver,	52 00
Wm. Kimball's family, doctor's bill,	45 00
Orrin Morgan,	108 60
Moses Webster,	68 71
Mrs. Dan Choate,	43 61
James Follansbee,	24 81
Ellen Powers,	48 75
Mrs. Mary A. Follansbee,	205 10
Wm. Stevens' family,	15 85
Mrs. Mary A. Roberts, house rent,	40 00
Samuel Stevens,	139 83
Wilder P. Cross,	13 38
F. A. Heath,	8 75

	\$892 39

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid for E. L. Merrill (Franklin),	\$82 34
Tramps,	1 75
Serving notice on Town of Orange,	
L. M. Copp case,	5 22
Wm. Walcott, services,	50 00
Expenses going to Haverhill collecting County bills,	9 00
Expense taking Samuel Stevens to Haverhill,	3 00
Expenses burying Samuel Stevens,	3 00
Expenses going to Hanover on Mrs. M. A. Follansbee case,	3 00
Legal expenses in the Mary A. Follansbee case,	6 60
Miscellaneous expenses,	10 00

	\$173 91

RECAPITULATION.

Amount received by Overseer,	\$1877 64
Paid for County,	\$325 65
Town poor,	892 39
Miscellaneous bills,	173 91
Town Treasurer, County order,	429 13
Cash on hand,	56 56

	\$1877 64

LIQUOR AGENT'S REPORT.

D. N. LADD, Liquor Agent—

Cash on hand as per 1879 report,	\$23 93
Cash received for sales from March 1st, 1879, to March 1st, 1880,	552 46
	— \$576 39

Paid for Liquors,	\$443 21
Town Treasurer,	23 93
Agent's salary,	75 00
Cash on hand due the town,	34 25
	— \$576 39

STOCK ACCOUNT.

Liquor and fixtures on hand March 1st, 1879,	\$163 80
" " " " 1880,	162 05
Net profit to town,	32 50

State of New Hampshire Bonds in hands of Wyman Pattee, Treasurer,	\$2,500 00
Due on Town Farm note in hands of Wyman Pat- tee, Treasurer,	875 98

LIABILITIES MARCH 1ST, 1880.

Due on notes with accrued interest,,	\$10,096 32
Ellen Powers,	291 25
	— \$10,387 57

AVAILABILITIES.

Cash in hands of Overseer of Poor,	\$56 56
Stock and fixtures of Liquor Agent,	162 05
Cash in hands of D. N. Ladd, Liquor Agent,	34 25
Balance due on Town Farm note above \$750,	125 98
Due from County, paid for poor this year,	325 65
" " " " J. A. Hammond, 1879,	35 58
" " " " L. M. Copp, 1879,	61 80
Due on tax bill, 1877,	32 02
" " " " 1878,	56 24
" " " " 1879,	180 73
Cash in hands of Wyman Pattee, Treasurer, Powers matter,	291 25
Cash in hands of Wyman Pattee, Treasurer,	2,424 29

Balance above liabilities,	\$3,786 40

Balance last year,	\$9,144 25
Balance this year,	6,601 17

Debt reduced this year,	\$2,543 09

Funds and property not available to pay the indebtedness of
the town with as yet:

Due from U. S. Government,	\$1,161 41
Gage fund in State Bonds,	2,500 00
Town farm note (school fund),	750 00
Eighty pounds spikes,	2 67
Four and one-half M shingle,	6 75
Deed of gravel pit from G. R. Godfrey,	35 00

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the Citizens of the Town of Enfield.

Your Committee, in presenting a report of the schools for the past year, would offer the following suggestions :

This has been a year of peace and prosperity to a great extent. We have many good schools, some excellent teachers, and some who are ignorant of the art of teaching and would be better employed in some other business. Our scholars' minds are crammed with texts to the exclusion of ideas. A reform is needed in this respect. We should require a higher standard of excellence from our teachers. The idea that any one who reads passably well, and has been through common school arithmetic is qualified to teach schools, composed wholly of small scholars, is very erroneous. It is of the utmost importance that the child commencing its education should have correct instruction, and to teach the primary classes requires more intelligence than is required to teach pupils of a higher grade. You may say you cannot afford to hire high priced teachers for our small schools. My experience is that six weeks of good school is worth more than twelve of poor.

There is a lack of interest, observable in our schools, on the part of parents. There is nothing that we feel is of so much importance as the education of our children, and nothing is so

much neglected. Our common schools are supported at great expense. We feel in other matters, where we are called upon to pay the bills, that it requires our personal supervision to see that our money is expended judiciously. But not so with our schools. A committee is chosen to represent the district, who hires the teacher making the first application, regardless of their fitness, cheapness being often the greatest recommendation ; the teacher is installed, the parents send their children to school, purchase the necessary books, and then consider their duty done. Children are apt to take interest in their studies in proportion to the interest manifested by their parents. Frequent visits to the school room convince both teacher and scholar, that they cannot neglect their duties with impunity.

We should have the interest of our schools in view at our annual school meeting in the selection of committees. The person selected should have a personal interest in the success of the schools and be possessed of good sound judgment, and one who will devote a sufficient amount of time to ascertain whether the teacher he has employed is rendering a fair equivalent for the wages paid, and if not apply the remedy. If we employ a person to do a mechanical piece of work and he proves to be unskilled, we discharge him. I do not know why teachers should be made an exception to this rule. As a rule, the prudential committees of this town have not manifested interest enough in the schools to visit them at all. Most of the parents ditto. A reform is needed here.

It has been the custom in our schools to constantly turn back. The teacher at the commencement of the term, instead of advancing the classes from the point reached at the previous term, will turn them back. This is an evil which I think should be remedied. If the teacher finds that some principle has been imperfectly understood or forgotten, refer the scholar back to the forgotten rule or process to refresh his memory, that he may apply it to his advanced studies. In this way, thoroughness can be secured as well as in the turning back method. This matter appears of so much importance to me that I make these suggestions for the consideration of future S. S. Commit-

tees, through whose efforts this waste of time can be remedied.

I would suggest the impropriety of setting aside mental arithmetic as soon as the pupil commences written. The true object of our schools is to develope the mind, and the mental powers should be exercised in every possible manner. All operations or parts of operations in arithmetic that can be performed mentally should never be done in any other manner. Parents by expressing a wish in this direction can work a much needed reform.

I have reason to believe that our schools have been, in point of excellence, fully up to the standard of former years. Many of the teachers are earnest workers, and have had a good degree of success. Without an exception, they have my approbation, in that they manifested a desire to do their whole duty by their schools according to the best of their ability. The scholars in town have, with a very few exceptions, manifested an interest in their studies and have made a good degree of advancement. In one or two instances, the course adopted by the prudential committee in placing teachers in the schools against the wishes of a considerable portion of the district, has detracted somewhat from their utility.

Irregular attendance on the part of many scholars, is an evil that might be remedied, for the most part by the parents.

The condition of our school houses is worthy of favorable mention. Outwardly they present a good appearance, but in many of them the scholars are obliged to sit, during school hours, on hard benches. These should be removed and the most approved school furniture substituted. It would prove a profitable investment. A little whitewash would add to the looks as well as to the healthfulness of most of the school rooms.

District No. 2, Shaker Hill, is entitled to the credit of having the best school house in town. An outlay of, from fifty to seventy-five dollars will make most of the school houses as comfortable as would be desired.

District No. 1, needs more school room. It is impossible for two teachers to do justice to the number of classes in this school. Two terms, with three teachers, would be more profit-

able than three terms, with two teachers. Five hundred dollars expended in the erection of a house for the accommodation of the primary department, remote from the school house now in use, would remove any cause for complaint on account of the abuse of the small scholars by the larger. The higher department should be at least a good High School that would accommodate scholars from other districts who are desirous of obtaining a better education than that afforded by their own school.

The experience of the past year convinces me that strict discipline in our schools is necessary in order that the best results may be obtained. It is very desirable that teachers should possess the faculty of governing their schools without resort to force. But where obedience cannot be secured in any other way, force should be employed. It is a mistaken idea that teachers have no legal right to use corporal punishment. I should regret the necessity, but should advise the teacher to enforce order, if necessity required it.

The example of District No. 10, George Hill, is worthy of imitation, in the selection of a Prudential Committee, who has a personal interest in the success of the school. A competent teacher was employed; one whose heart is in her work, and the result of her year's work is highly satisfactory.

Districts No. 1, No. 9, No. 11, and No. 14, have been, for the most part, fortunate in the selection of their teachers.

Other teachers have been employed who passed a good examination and who doubtless would have made equally as good a record, had they been employed in schools that afforded as wide a scope for the exercise of their abilities. The teachers of summer term in Districts No. 4 and No. 15, also teachers in No. 3, 12, and 17, succeeded in giving satisfaction to the districts where employed.

The scholars nearly all left before the close of the winter term in District No. 4, owing to the conduct of some of the larger scholars, outside of the school room. No fault found with the teacher, who could not do herself justice under the circumstances.

Some fault was found with the teacher in District No. 2,

Shaker Hill. This teacher is eminently qualified to teach this school. Her method of teaching is very practical and good results have been obtained. Upon visiting the school, I could find nothing in the conduct of the teacher worthy of censure.

Thoroughness is lacking in District No. 6.

The schools in Districts No. 13, and 18, Church and South family Shakers, have been all the most exacting could require. In no other school have I seen as good order and scholarly deportment. Teachers of experience are employed, and the pupils show a corresponding degree of advancement in their studies. Much better results could be obtained in many of our schools, could the same unanimity of feeling exist in regard to their construction and discipline, as is manifest in our Shaker communities.

As a rule, our scholars are lamentably ignorant of the meaning of many of the common words used in the reading books now in use, and in more than half of the schools I found no dictionary, and to this fact I attribute much of the poor reading, and still poorer pronunciation. Chapter 53 of the pamphlet laws, passed June session 1879, authorizes the use of one fifth of the literary fund for the purchase of reference books and school apparatus. I would suggest that every school room should be supplied with a dictionary.

The whole amount of school money raised this year is \$2266. I think the division of the \$400, raised in addition to that required by law, is manifestly unjust. Districts Nos. 3, 14, and 2, have the least amount of school money. These schools are equally important with others. Reference to the annexed statistical table will show the amount of money received by each district and the amount received from the division of the \$400.

I offer these remarks, not with the idea of presenting anything new, but in hopes, that being brought to notice, they may induce you to encourage some of the many needed reforms. Our schools are to a great extent what we make them.

I append the roll of honor, also a tabular report of the schools as required by law.

J. C. CURRIER,
S. S. Committee.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Including the names of all pupils who have been present every half day of a term without being tardy. Those marked † for two terms. Those marked * for three terms.

DISTRICT No. 1. Alice Hadley, Carrie Stevens, †Lizzie Hall, Mary Hall, Kate Wells, †Louise Raymond, Anna Day, Frank N. Hall, Ernest B. Conant, Mabel P. Doton, Ada M. Chandler, Arthur A. George.

DISTRICT No. 2. †Fannie S. Perley, Archie Miller, John Hart.

DISTRICT No. 3. Fred W. Jones.

DISTRICT No. 4. Cora A. Fogg, †Allie C. Talbert.

DISTRICT No. 6. *Everett E. Marrs. John W. White, Horace W. White.

DISTRICT No. 7. Sadie M. Follansbee, Cora F. Whitford.

DISTRICT No. 9. †George Babbitt, Vinnie Follansbee, †Frank Smith, †Walter S. Dorothy, Eugene Carlton.

DISTRICT No. 10. †Lura A. Jackman, J. Mervine Clifford, Charlie F. Adams.

DISTRICT No. 11. Vesta L. Cole, Lula M. Bryant, Gertrude L. Bryant, Edith L. Bryant.

DISTRICT No. 12. †Walter Moody, †Jennie M. Moody.

DISTRICT No. 14. Kate E. Gile, George E. Gile, Berton F. Gile, Fred H. Follansbee.

DISTRICT No. 15. James Kimball, May Church, Cora B. Church, Nellie Merrill.

DISTRICT No. 17. †Josie C. Eastman, Minnie E. Hall, Edwin G. Huntley, Lizzie C. Huntley, Annie L. Huntley, Leona E. Thurston, Ella H. Thurston, Bennie H. Thurston, Ernest J. Thurston, George D. Thurston.

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